



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a meeting on June 13, 2007, at the Burton M. Cross State Office Building, Room 103, Augusta, with the following members present: Chair James Carignan; Vice Chair Philip Dionne; Joyce McPhetres; Jean Gulliver; Ellie Multer; Janet Tockman; and Ann Weisleder. Excused: Jack Norris

Also present were: Commissioner Susan Gendron; Deputy Commissioner Angela Faherty; Scott Brown, Director, School Facilities, AIA; Harry Osgood, Higher Education Specialist; and Rhonda Casey, Secretary Associate.

CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; SITE APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; SAD #32 – ASHLAND, NEW PRE K-12 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

MAJOR CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; SITE APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; BREWER SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, NEW PRE K-8 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BOND PROGRAM

APPROVAL OF THE STATE TEAM MEMBERS FOR THE NCATE FOCUS VISIT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED TEAM TO REVIEW THE REQUEST FROM CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE TO OFFER ACADEMIC CREDIT PROGRAMS IN MAINE

MOVED by Ellie Multer, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted to approve the consent agenda.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION OF THE REVIEW TEAM RECOMMENDATION REGARDING THE HUSSON COLLEGE REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.) DEGREE

Background: 20-A MRSA, Chapter 409 provides that a postsecondary educational institution desiring to confer additional degrees must obtain authorization from the Maine State Board of Education. Husson College has previously been authorized to award specific degrees at the Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's, and Doctoral levels.

Officials of Husson College submitted an application seeking authority to confer an additional degree, the Juris Doctor (J.D.). A program approval visit was conducted on the campus of Bowdoin College, October 25, 2006. This meeting resulted in the generation of a number of questions that the team asked Husson College officials to address. The President of Husson College submitted responses to the team's questions on January 22, 2007. Following distribution of the College's responses, a phone conference was scheduled with team members on February 23, 2007. The purpose of the phone meeting was to ascertain how well team members felt the responses addressed prior concerns and to determine whether another meeting with the applicant was necessary. It was decided that Husson College had met all degree-granting standards as set forth in Chapter 170, albeit with some ongoing concerns. The team chair, Dr. Barry Mills, President of Bowdoin College, agreed to summarize the team's findings and to include the few remaining concerns. To arrive at a consensus on the wording of the summary, many emails were exchanged among and between team members over the next several weeks. On April 24, 2007, through the vehicle of a summary letter, Dr. Mills conveyed ". . . the unanimous view of the members of the committee that Husson College's application for the creation of a law school meets the criteria set forth in Chapter 170."

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education accept the unanimous view of the Husson College Review Team and approve additional degree-granting authority for Husson College to award the degree of Juris Doctor (J.D.).

MOVED by Phil Dionne, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and voted with four members opposing, two members in favor (Ann Weisleder and Phil Dionne), and one member abstaining (Ellie Multer). The motion died.

Motion to table the consideration of the Review Team Recommendation Regarding the Husson College for Additional Degree-granting Authorization to Award the Juris Doctor (J.D.) Degree until the July 11, 2007, meeting. At that time the Board wishes to receive the team report in the standard format used when considering an institution's request to seek approval for degree-granting authority.

MOVED by Janet Tockman, seconded Jean Gulliver, and voted five in favor, two members opposing (Ann Weisleder and Phil Dionne) to table the consideration of Husson College Review Team's report until the next regular meeting. It is further clarified that the Board wishes to receive the review team's report for Husson College in the standard format normally used when considering a requests from degree-granting institutions.

The below exhibit was taken out of order due to a time commitment of the review team members who were attending the Board meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REVIEW TEAM RECOMMENDATION REGARDING THE HUSSON COLLEGE REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE PHARM. DOCTOR (P.D.) DEGREE

Background: 20-A MRSA, Chapter 409 provides that a postsecondary educational institution desiring to confer additional degrees must obtain authorization from the Maine State Board of Education. Husson College has previously been authorized to award specific degrees at the Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's, and Doctoral levels.

Officials of Husson College submitted an application seeking authority to confer an additional degree, the Pharm. Doctor (P.D.). The Board approved review team met with Husson College officials in Augusta on February 22, 2007. Following this meeting a team report of findings was compiled in which the team unanimously agreed that the Husson College application met each of the degree-granting standards as contained in Chapter 170.

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education accept the review team report and approve the request from Husson College to confer the additional degree of Pharm. Doctor (P.D.).

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and unanimously voted to accept the review team report and approve the request from Husson College to confer the additional degree of Pharm. Doctor (P.D.).

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT CONCERNING THE STATE APPROVAL OF THE SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Background: Saint Joseph's College requested a campus visitation for the review of the following teacher preparation programs:

Elementary Level (K-8)

- English/Language Art
- Life Sciences
- Mathematics
- Social Studies

Physical Education (K-12)

Latin (7-12)

An on-site visit was conducted from February 4, 2007, to February 7, 2007. In accordance with Chapter 114-A §2.6, visitation team members have developed a report of findings for the State Board's consideration.

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education grant approval of Saint Joseph College's teacher education programs through December 31, 2009. An interim report addressing the recommendations stated in Standards 2 and 3 should be submitted prior to that date. If, upon reviewing determination that the interim report, the Board determines that the college has adequately addressed these recommendations the Board may act to extend State approval to the winter of 2012.

The exhibit was verbally amended to include the consideration of the following courses that were inadvertently omitted from the exhibit under the secondary level: biology, chemistry, English, history, and mathematics.

MOVED Janet Tockman, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and unanimously voted to grant approval of Saint Joseph College's teacher education programs through December 31, 2009. An interim report addressing the recommendations stated in Standards 2 and 3 is to be submitted prior to December 31, 2009. Upon determination that the college has adequately addressed these recommendations the Board may act to extend State approval to the winter of 2012.

CONSIDERATION OF THE UNITY COLLEGE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT

Background: Unity College submitted an application for initial approval of its educator preparation program and requested a campus visitation for the review of the following programs:

- Secondary Science Education

A site visit was conducted from Sunday, March 4 to Wednesday, March 7, 2007. Following the visit a review team report of findings was compiled and is being distributed for Board consideration.

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education grant five-year State approval to the College's teacher education program from winter 2007 to winter 2012. It is also recommended that the teacher education unit develop and submit an interim report that will address the action taken and implementation associated with standard six as well as recommendations associated with standards one through five. This report will need to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education by December 31, 2009.

MOVED Ellie Multer, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted by those present to grant five-year State approval to Unity College's teacher education program from winter 2007 to winter 2012. It is also recommended that the teacher education unit develop and submit an interim report that will address the action taken and

implementation associated with standard six as well as recommendations associated with standards one through five. This report will need to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education by December 31, 2009.

FINAL ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 13, QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS FOR TEACHERS, EDUCATIONAL SPECIALISTS, AND ADMINISTRATORS

Background: The State Board proposed revisions to Chapter 13 as follows:

PRAXIS II tests and test scores have been added to the charts for pre-k early childhood, blind, health, theater, and PLT.

A new PRAXIS II test and score has been added to the #282 teacher of disabled students' birth to age 5, with a period of time which allows a person to take the old test requirement or the new one.

There was no score set for the teacher of the deaf/hearing impaired because of lack of valid data. Educational Testing Service (ETS) will work with Maine and convene a standard setting panel at Baxter School over the following school year. There will be no minimum score required for applicants receiving this endorsement until such time as a specific score is set. Please refer to Section 3.4.A. of the rule, which can be accessed online at the Secretary of State Office at www.maine.gov/sos/.

Section 3.11 out-of-state certificate holders will not need to take PRAXIS I/PPST or PLT. They will only need the PRAXIS II Content area assessment.

There were no comments received.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve for final adoption of the proposed amendments to Chapter 13 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act (APA).

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Joyce McPhetres, and unanimously voted to adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 13 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act (APA).

FINAL ADOPTION OF CHAPTER 115, CERTIFICATION, AUTHORIZATION, AND APPROVAL OF EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL, PART I AND PART II

Background: Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization, and Approval of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education and Department of Education underwent Legislative review and approval during the second regular session of the 121st Maine Legislature and was adopted by the State Board on April 14, 2004.

The State Board committee for certification and higher education has, over the past few months, revisited Chapter 115 to address requests that would effect changes and provide clarifications to the rule.

Proposed amendments to Chapter 115, Part II include the addition of a new certificate, the Interim Superintendent Certificate, which would allow a school superintendent whose superintendent certificate had lapsed to be employed in a school district as an interim superintendent for a period of up to two years; the removal of reference to the current testing requirement for a targeted need certificate for prelingually deaf certification candidates; the inclusion that community college courses are acceptable with a minimum grade of "C" and part of an articulated agreement with a regionally accredited four-year college; the waiving of student teaching with a waiver to teach from the Commissioner and a support team; the addition of a new endorsement - Early Childhood (Birth to School age 5) and, the addition of clarifying language that was inadvertently deleted in a prior rule revision in the following teacher endorsements; middle level, foreign language, literacy specialist, and career and technical.

Chapter 115 has completed the public hearing, comments have been considered, and responded to.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education finally adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 115, Parts I and II, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (APA).

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and unanimously voted to adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 115, Parts I and II in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act (APA).

CONSIDERATION TO PARTNER AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MAINE YOUTH ACTION NETWORK (MYAN) FOR SERVICES TO ASSIST WITH BRINGING STUDENT MEMBERS ON THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MOVED by Joyce McPhetres, seconded by Ellie Multer, and unanimously voted to approve the partnership and enter into a formal agreement for services to create a sustainable infrastructure in Maine that increases youth voice and opportunity within the realm of public policy.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

A slate of officers was submitted during the May 9, 2007, Board meeting. James W. Carignan was nominated for election as Chair and Philip A. Dionne is being considered for election as Vice Chair.

MOVED by Joyce McPhetres, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted to elect James Carignan as chair and Philip Dionne as vice chair for the term of one year beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- That LD 1608, which deals with rule Chapter 118, has died on the floor for non-concurrence. Therefore, the rule will remain rule routine and technical.
- That LD 1821 passed unanimously without debate.
- Another bill that will be going to the floor is the transition bill for high school students who are having difficulty earning a high school diploma. If the bill passes it will create for the Department a process for students to earn a diploma, which will be a companion piece to Chapter 125.
- That the bill dealing with regionalization has been signed and it now Public Law 2007 Chapter 240 Part XXXX. A copy of the summary can be found on the Department of Education's website at www.maine.gov/education: This will be rolled out to the public by July 15 (see timeline also on the DOE website). Regional meetings will be held throughout the State of Maine with the Commissioner, Jim Rier, and Norm Higgins taking the lead. All districts must submit a plan to Department of Education by December 2007. There will be financial incentives for those who vote positively in the January 2008 referendum, and for those who wait to hold their vote in June 2008, no incentive will be awarded.

Jean left the meeting at 4:20 PM

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Ellie Multer:

- That she would like authorization from the Board for the Chair to draft and send a letter on behalf of the Board to the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) expressing the Maine State Board of Education's concerns for the election process and with the newly elected president expressing himself as being a creationist.

MOVED by Ellie Multer, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted by those present to authorize the Chair to draft and send a letter to NASBE on behalf of the Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

State Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn the June 13, 2007, meeting at 4:20 PM.